

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. ~~A server apparatus capable of communicating with at least one client and a printer via a network, comprising:~~
- 5       image storage means for storing print data of a print job to be executed by a print request from said client;
- 10      order management means for managing a print order of the print job to be executed by the print request from said client; and
- 15      control means for transmitting print data of the print job in the print order from said image storage means to said printer if the print data is not transmitted from said client to said printer.
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2.     The server apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising transmission means for, if the print data of the print job to be executed by the print request from said client cannot be stored into said image storage means, causing said order management means to manage the print order of the print job without storing the print data of the print job into said image storage means, and transmitting a transmission permission to said client, in its turn to perform printing, to transmit the print data to said printer.

3 The server apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising history storage means for, at each print output by said printer, storing information indicative of a client requested the print output and a device transmitted print data to said printer.

4. A print managing method for a server apparatus capable of communicating with at least one client and a printer via a network, comprising:

10 an image storage step of storing print data of a print job, to be executed by a print request from said client, into image storage means;

an order management step of managing a print order of the print job to be executed by the print request from said client; and

15 a control step of transmitting print data of the print job in the print order from said image storage means to said printer if the print data is not transmitted from said client to said printer.

20 5. The print managing method according to claim 1, further comprising a transmission step of, if the print data of the print job to be executed by the print request from said client cannot be stored into said image storage means, managing the print order of the print job at said order management step without storing

~~the print data of the print job into said image storage~~  
means, and transmitting a transmission permission to  
said client, in its turn to perform printing, to  
transmit the print data to said printer.

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6. The server apparatus according to claim 1, further  
comprising history storage means for, at each print  
output by said printer, storing information indicative  
of a client requested the print output and a device  
10 transmitted print data to said printer.

7. A storage medium storing a program for realizing a  
print managing method for a server apparatus capable of  
communicating with at least one client and a printer via  
15 a network, said program realizing:

image storage process for storing print data of a  
print job, to be executed by a print request from said  
client, into image storage means;

order management process for managing a print  
20 order of the print job to be executed by the print  
request from said client; and

control process for transmitting print data of the  
print job in the print order from said image storage  
means to ~~said printer~~ if the print data is not  
25 transmitted from said client to said printer.

8. An information processing apparatus as a client

capable of communicating with a server apparatus which  
manages a print order and a printer via a network,  
comprising:

5       image storage means for storing print data of a  
print job to be executed by a print request;

10      selection means for causing a user to select a  
spool function of said image storage means or that of  
said server apparatus for storing print data of a print  
job to be executed by a print request to said server  
apparatus; and

15      control means for, if it is determined by using  
said selection means to use the spool function of said  
server apparatus, transmitting said print data to said  
server apparatus, while if it is determined by using  
said selection means to use the spool function of said  
image storage means, controlling said image storage  
means to store said print data.

20     9. The information processing apparatus according to  
claim 8, further comprising notification means for  
notifying said server apparatus of said selected spool  
function.

25     10. The information processing apparatus according to  
claim 8, wherein said selection means causes the user to

~~make a selection by displaying a user interface screen image.~~

11. A print managing method for an information processing apparatus as a client capable of communicating with a server apparatus which manages a print order and a printer via a network, comprising:
- 5           an image storage step of storing print data of a print job, to be executed by a print request, into image storage means;
- 10           a selection step of causing a user to select a spool function of said image storage means or that of said server apparatus for storing print data of a print job to be executed by a print request to said server apparatus; and
- 15           a control step of, if it is determined at said selection step that the spool function of said server apparatus is to be used, transmitting said print data to said server apparatus, while if it is determined at said selection step that the spool function of said image storage means is to be used, controlling said image storage means to store said print data.
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- 25           12. The print managing method according to claim 11, further comprising a notification step of notifying said server apparatus of said selected spool function.

~~13. The print managing method according to claim 11,  
wherein at said selection step, a user interface screen  
image is displayed to cause the user to make a selection.~~

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14. A storage medium storing a program for realizing a print managing method for an information processing apparatus as a client capable of communicating with a server apparatus which manages a print order and a printer via a network, said program realizing:

image storage process for storing print data of a print job, to be executed by a print request, into image storage means;

15 selection process for causing a user to select a spool function of said image storage means or that of said server apparatus for storing print data of a print job to be executed by a print request to said server apparatus; and

20 control process for, if it is determined at said selection process that the spool function of said server apparatus is to be used, transmitting said print data to said server apparatus, while if it is determined at said selection process that the spool function of said image storage means is to be used, controlling said image storage means to store said print data.

15. An information processing apparatus as a client capable of communicating a server apparatus which manages a print order and a printer via a network, comprising:
- 5       image storage means for storing print data of a print job to be executed by a print request;
- determination means for determining one of a spool function of said image storage means and that of said server apparatus for storing print data of a print job
- 10      to be executed by a print request to said server apparatus; and
- control means for, if said determination means determines to use the spool function of said server apparatus, transmitting said print data to said server apparatus, while said determination means determines to use the spool function of said image storage means, controlling said image storage means to store said print data.
- 15      16. The information processing apparatus according to claim 15, further comprising notification means for notifying said server apparatus of said selected spool function.
- 20      17. The information processing apparatus according to claim 15, wherein said determination means makes a

~~determination by determining whether or not a remaining capacity of said image storage means is equal to or less than a predetermined amount of capacity.~~

- 5 18. A print managing method for an information processing apparatus as a client capable of communicating a server apparatus which manages a print order and a printer via a network, comprising:
- an image storage step of storing print data of a print job, to be executed by a print request, into image storage means;
- a determination step of determining one of a spool function of said image storage means and that of said server apparatus for storing print data of a print job
- 15 to be executed by a print request to said server apparatus; and
- a control step of, if it is determined at said determination step that the spool function of said server apparatus is to be used, transmitting said print data to said server apparatus, while if it is determined at said determination step that the spool function of said image storage means is to be used, controlling said image storage means to store said print data.
- 25 19. The print managing method according to claim 18, further comprising a notification step of notifying said

server apparatus of said selected spool function

20. The print managing method according to claim 18,  
wherein at said determination step, a determination is  
5 made by determining whether or not a remaining capacity  
of said image storage means is equal to or less than a  
predetermined amount of capacity.

21. A storage medium storing a program for realizing a  
10 print managing method for an information processing  
apparatus as a client capable of communicating with a  
server apparatus which manages a print order and a  
printer via a network, said program realizing:

15 image storage process for storing print data of a  
print job, to be executed by a print request, into image  
storage means;

determination process for determining one of a  
spool function of said image storage means and that of  
said server apparatus for storing print data of a print  
20 job to be executed by a print request to said server  
apparatus; and

control process for, if it is determined at said  
determination process that the spool function of said  
server apparatus is to be used, transmitting said print  
25 data to said server apparatus, while if it is determined  
at said determination process that the spool function of

~~said image storage means is to be used, controlling said image storage means to store said print data.~~

22. An information processing apparatus as a client  
5 capable of communicating with a server apparatus which  
manages a print order and a printer via a network,  
comprising:

image storage means for storing image data of a  
print job to be executed by a print request;

10 list acquisition means for acquiring a list of  
print jobs managed by said server apparatus;

job designation means for designating a print job  
to be previewed based on the list of print jobs acquired  
by said acquisition means;

15 image acquisition means for, if image data of the  
print job designated by said designation means is stored  
in said image storage means, reading the image data from  
said image storage means, while if the image data is  
stored in said server apparatus, downloading the image  
20 data from said server apparatus; and

control means for displaying a preview image based  
on the image data acquired by said image acquisition  
means.

25 23. The information processing apparatus according to  
~~claim 22, wherein said job designation means causes a~~

~~user to perform designation by displaying a user interface screen image.~~

24. The information processing apparatus according to  
5 claim 22, wherein said image data is an EMF file  
comprising intermediate data.

25. The information processing apparatus according to  
claim 24, wherein said control means displays the  
10 preview image by controlling drawing means of an  
Operating System to execute the acquired EMF file.

26. A print managing method for an information  
processing apparatus as a client capable of  
15 communicating with a server apparatus which manages a  
print order and a printer via a network, comprising:  
an image storage step of storing image data of a  
print job, to be executed by a print request, into image  
storage means;  
20 a list acquisition step of acquiring a list of  
print jobs managed by said server apparatus;  
a job designation step of designating a print job  
to be previewed based on the list of print jobs acquired  
at said acquisition step;  
25 an image acquisition step of, if image data of the  
print job designated at said designation step is stored

~~in said image storage means, reading the image data from  
said image storage means, while if the image data is  
stored in said server apparatus, downloading the image  
data from said server apparatus; and~~

5        a control step of displaying a preview image based  
on the image data acquired at said image acquisition  
step.

*POLY* /  
10      27. The print managing method according to claim 26,  
wherein at said job designation step, a user interface  
screen image is displayed to cause a user to perform  
designation.

15      28. The print managing method according to claim 26,  
wherein said image data is an EMF file comprising  
intermediate data.

20      29. The print managing method according to claim 28,  
wherein at said control step, the preview image is  
displayed by controlling drawing means of an Operating  
System to execute the acquired EMF file.

25      30. A storage medium storing a program for realizing a  
print managing method for an information processing  
apparatus as a client capable of communicating with a  
server apparatus which manages a print order and a

~~printer via a network, said program realizing:~~

image storage process for storing image data of a print job, to be executed by a print request, into image storage means;

5 list acquisition process for acquiring a list of print jobs managed by said server apparatus;

job designation means for designating a print job to be previewed based on the list of print jobs acquired by said acquisition means;

10 image acquisition process for, if image data of the print job designated at said designation process is stored in said image storage means, reading the image data from said image storage means, while if the image data is stored in said server apparatus, downloading the  
15 image data from said server apparatus; and

control process for displaying a preview image based on the image data acquired by said image acquisition means.